



Transportation Program Information and FAQs

Routes

Noe Valley/Southwest Bus Route

Northside Bus Route

Marin Bus Route

Pricing Details *(subject to change)*:

You may purchase a full-year pass for a flat fee per student. See below for 2023-24 bus route pricing:

Noe/Southwest Route - \$2,500.00 / Annual Rate

Northside Route - \$2,500.00 / Annual Rate

Marin Route - \$2,825.00 / Annual Rate

If utilizing this bus service would make a considerable difference in the quality of life for your family but you find the cost prohibitive and you are participating in our PHS Flexible Tuition program at a higher discount level, please reach out to our Director of Admission for flexible options.

Your child can ride the school bus every day that classes are in session. The bus program will follow all SFDPH guidance related to health and safety protocols and the bus service is operated by Durham School Services.

Frequently Asked Questions about the PHS/KDBS Bus:

Who is driving the bus?

KDBS has contracted [Durham School Services](#) to provide daily bus service.

What COVID-19 protocols are in place?

It is recommended that all students wear masks at all times when on the bus. Students should not have symptoms of illness.

Durham School Services follows specific COVID-19 safety protocols; more information may be shared with families using our bus service prior to the first day of school.



Will it be the same driver each week?

Yes. Once a driver is assigned, that driver will be responsible for that bus until the end of the school term.

Are there driver background checks?

Yes, bus drivers must complete background checks, drug testing, Department of Transportation (DOT) checks, physicals, and driving record checks upon hire. Please visit Durham School Services' [Safety](#) page for more information.

Does the bus have seatbelts?

California requires three-point seat belts on (1) school buses manufactured on and after July 1, 2005 that carry more than 16 passengers, and (2) all other school buses manufactured on and after July 1, 2004. It asks school transportation providers to first allocate seat-belt-equipped school buses for elementary school students whenever possible. The state cannot charge any person, school district, or organization with violating this law if a passenger either does not fasten his or her seat belt, or does so improperly (Cal. Veh. Code § 27316). State regulations require school bus passengers to (1) use the seat belts; and (2) be taught how to use them in an age-appropriate manner (Cal. Code Regs. Title 5, § 14105).

Does the bus allow for booster seats?

Parents may request drivers to use booster seats. However, the bus company is not responsible for lost or misplaced booster seats.

Where will students arrive at school?

The bus will drop students one block away from PHS. If needed, you may request a PHS staff member to safely escort your student into school.

Are devices allowed on the bus?

No technology (such as phones or iPads) may be used while on the bus, even to listen to music.

Is food allowed on the bus?

Food may not be consumed on the bus. Students may have their lunch/snacks in their bags.

Are there assigned seats?

When you get on the bus at your stop, there will not be assigned seats but there will be sections of the bus designated for Burke's and for PHS students.



How many kids (min/max) per bus? What about Middle vs. Lower School?

Bus service is available to students in all grades. Both routes will arrive at the PHS stop each day by 8:15 a.m. to allow students time to walk to campus, visit their locker (if in Middle School) and prepare for the day. Bus ridership will vary by route and demand. The maximum bus size is 60; there is no minimum ridership requirement.

Are music or other loud noises allowed?

No, music is not allowed on the bus.

How can we provide feedback regarding driver or student behavior?

All behavior comments should be directed to the PHS Head of School. We will then follow up with Burke's, and the driver/students involved. We are very interested in feedback, so please send your comments along in a timely manner.

How was the route determined?

We realize that driving to and from PHS each day can be a hardship for families. Our goal is to help families farthest from school to have a minimal impact on their day-to-day lives and to steward neighbor relations for PHS. Burke's piloted the program in 2017 and used geographical data, community feedback, and an administrator with extensive bus route knowledge to help them determine maximum ridership opportunities and efficient routes.

How many stops? How long is the total travel time?

All three routes make 3-4 stops before arriving at PHS. The longest travel time should be about an hour.

How long does the bus "wait" at each stop?

The bus arrives at the stop and loads the students, which takes from two to five minutes depending on the number of students. If a parent believes the student will be more than five minutes late to a particular stop, they should drive directly to the next stop to ensure the child can catch the bus.

Do I need to wait with my child at the drop-off location?

Bus stops will not be monitored. It is up to each family to decide if their child is safe and able enough to wait on their own. We highly recommend that parents/guardians wait until the bus has arrived.

What if my child only needs to ride on certain days of the week?

This year, you only have the option to purchase a full year plan for your child.



If the bus isn't going to show up for some reason, how will I be notified?

Two separate issues may occur: 1) Bus breakdown. The bus company will notify PHS & Burke's of the breakdown and give us an approximate time of delay. This information will be forwarded immediately to parents, so they know about the delay and new estimated pickup times via SchoolMessenger or other timely means. 2) Traffic problems: Accidents and delays are not uncommon during rush hour. Any significant delay (more than five minutes) will be transmitted by the bus to PHS & Burke's, who will then notify the parents of the delay and new estimated pickup times.

What happens if the bus is in an accident, gets a flat tire, etc.?

The bus company will notify PHS & Burke's of the issue and give us an approximate time of delay. This information will be forwarded immediately to parents, so they know about the delay and new estimated pickup times or service disruption.

How do I get in touch with my child(ren) during the drive?

If parents need to contact their children during the drive, they can reach the children on their personal phones or contact PHS, and we will relay the message to their children when they arrive on campus.

What are the plans in case of emergency, earthquake, or natural disaster?

The bus company will notify PHS & Burke's of the bus location and status. This information will be forwarded immediately to parents.

What if my child is sick? How do we let the bus know?

There is no need to let the bus know if your student will not be able to make the bus due to illness or any other reason. The bus will follow its schedule regardless.

Will the bus run after school?

The bus service is only being offered for the morning commute to school. It was determined that at this time, it is too difficult to accommodate different school departure times and individual after-school activity schedules that vary on a daily basis.